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Leading Trade Show Magazine Recognizes the Kentucky Exposition Center

LOUISVILLE, KY (September 24, 2013) – The Gold 100, an annual list of the top 100 trade shows compiled by Trade Show Executive magazine, was announced last week and once again numerous shows held at the Kentucky Exposition Center received recognition. For 2012, four shows at the Kentucky Exposition Center are listed in the top 100, tying the facility for sixth place on the list of locations hosting the most Gold 100 events. The shows recognized The Mid-America Trucking Show, ABC Kids Expo, GIE + EXPO and the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association's National RV Trade Show which generated a combined \$36.31 million of economic impact for Louisville in 2012.

"We're proud to host some of the best trade shows in the nation. For top shows to return every year says a lot about the experience they have in Louisville. We plan to continue pursuing the best shows in the industry," said Clifford "Rip" Rippetoe, CEO of the Kentucky State Fair Board.

The Mid-America Trucking Show, ranked 10th on the list, draws trucking professionals from around the world and generates \$14.1 million of economic impact annually. Each year, 70,000 industry professionals from all 50 states and over 70 countries attend the event.

Ranked 15th on the list, the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association's National RV Trade Show recently extended their contract through 2015, with renewal options through 2019. The 50th anniversary event in 2012 featured 68 manufacturers and 235 suppliers displaying the latest RV products. Attendees included RV dealers, warehouse distributors, accessory store owners, and campground operators.

Ranked as the top show in the building, construction and repair industry, GIE + EXPO earned the 16th overall spot on the Gold 100. Held annually at the Kentucky Exposition Center, GIE + EXPO boasts more than 600 exhibitors and brings more than 22,500 attendees to Louisville.

The ABC Kids Expo came to Louisville for the first time in 2012. This show is ranked 57th on the list and draws approximately 15,000 attendees. Produced by All Baby & Child Inc., this event is the premier juvenile products specialty show in the nation with more than 900 exhibitors.

Due to its biennial schedule, the International Construction and Utility Equipment Expo is not on the 2012 list but was ranked third overall in 2011. Returning to Louisville in 2013, this event brings 16,000 attendees and 800 exhibitors generating \$9.88 million of economic impact.

In 2016, the Kentucky Exposition Center will add another top 100 show, the HAI HELI-EXPO, ranked 55th on the Gold 100 for 2012. The aviation industry's largest trade show dedicated to the international helicopter community attracts more than 20,000 exhibitors and attendees from around the world including helicopter manufacturers, owners and operators, government agencies and helicopter industry products.

The Gold 100 metrics measure the net square feet of exhibit space, the number of exhibiting companies and the total attendance to determine the top 100 trade shows in the country. The Kentucky Exposition Center is one of the top ten largest public facilities of its kind in the United States and features 1.2 million square feet of indoor space. For more information visit, www.kyexpo.org.

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One of the top 10 largest public facilities of its kind in the United States, the Kentucky Exposition Center features 1.2 million square feet of indoor space including Freedom Hall, an indoor arena which seats over 19,000 people. The facility's class "A" exhibit space totals 425,700 square feet and accommodates an amazing spectrum of events year round. The expo center is the permanent home for the Kentucky State Fair, the National Farm Machinery Show, and the North American International Livestock Exposition. Conveniently located adjacent to the Louisville International Airport and near the junction of three major interstates, the Kentucky Exposition Center is easily accessible and just five minutes south of downtown Louisville. Parking at the Kentucky Exposition Center is \$8 per vehicle. For more information, go online to www.kyexpo.org.